REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of Magnuson (US 2,707,418); claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Magnuson, Kume (US 6,243,540) or Moore (US 3,828,991); and claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Japanese Reference No. 11-236909. Applicants believe that the rejections have been overcome as detailed below. At the outset, claims 8-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Further, claims 10 and 12 have been amended to depend from claim 11, now amended in independent form. Claims 13 and 14 have also been amended in independent form. As indicated in the Office Action on page 5, claims 11 and 13-14 are considered allowable in independent form.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD-& LLOYD LLC

BY

Thomas C. Basso Reg. No. 46,541 Cust. No. 29175

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